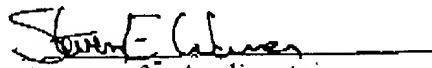


claims may be found in the application as originally filed. Therefore, no new matter has been added.

Claims 1-15 previously allowed in this application. Applicants submit that the amendment to claim 15 does not affect the allowability of that claim. In addition to claims 1-15 being allowable, Applicants submit that claims 16-19 patentably define features of the exposure apparatus, the exposure method and the method of manufacturing a device of the present invention. Therefore, Applicants further submit that the instant application is in condition for allowance. Favorable consideration and an early Notice of Allowance are requested.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should be directed to our address listed below.

Respectfully submitted,


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Application No. 09/708,590
Attorney Docket No. 03560.002732

APPENDIX A

IN THE CLAIMS

15. (Amended) A method for manufacturing a device, comprising the steps of:

providing an exposure system as claimed in [any one of claims 1 through 5] claim

1;

exposing a pattern on a wafer using the exposure system; and

assembling a device by processing the wafer on which the pattern has been

exposed.

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